

# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING

DATE: 1/21/04

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<b>AGENDA SECTION:</b> CONSENT AGENDA	<b>ORIGINATING DEPT:</b> Public Works	<b>ITEM NO.</b> D-20
<b>ITEM DESCRIPTION:</b> Professional Services Agreement for Preliminary Design of the TH 52/ 65 <sup>th</sup> Street Interchange, J7212		<b>PREPARED BY:</b> R. Freese <i>RF</i>

The City of Rochester and the Minnesota Department of Transportation have had numerous discussions over the past 5 years regarding the need for a new interchange on TH 52 at 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW to serve the current development and the projected urban growth along and north of 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The City's 25-Year Urban Service Area was expanded by Olmsted County to include the area along TH 52 from 65<sup>th</sup> Street to 90<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The City staff continues to receive regular requests from landowners and developers in this area regarding future access to their property and to TH 52 at 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW. The yet to be completed Land Use Plan and Zoning changes in this area are in some ways dependant on the access the property will have to TH 52.

In July 2003 ROCOG completed and submitted to MnDOT an Interchange Justification Report entitled: "65<sup>th</sup> Street NW Interchange Justification Request". Approved by ROCOG in February 2003, the "formal request" seek MnDOT consideration of a proposal to amend the ROCOG Long Range Thoroughfare Plan to identify the junction of 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW and TH 52 North in Rochester as the location for a future full access interchange, and to approve in concept the construction of future interchange ramp access between 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW and TH 52 at this location.

On September 25, 2003 representatives of the City staff, Mayor Brede, Council President Hunziker, and Councilmember Marcoux meet with MnDOT officials to discuss the ROCOG Study and to seek MnDOT's support for the construction of the new interchange. As a result of the meeting MnDOT agreed in principal to the construction of the interchange. Their concurrence was predicated on the City satisfying 5 conditions. One of the conditions was that the interchange met all current federal and state design requirements.

Certain portions of the future interchange at included in the ROC 52 Project. The bridge over TH 52 will be constructed to accommodate the future interchange. The proposed improvements to 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Bandel Road and 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW in the ROC 52 Project are at this time inconsistent with the improvements necessary to support the traffic volumes associated with the construction of an interchange at this location. MnDOT and the ROC 52 Project Contractor, ZRC, are willing to incorporate the necessary improvements to 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Bandel Road, and 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue into the ROC 52 Project if the City provides that information within the next 3-4 months. Additionally, the preparation of the preliminary design drawings at this time will facilitate a formal approval of the interchange design by MnDOT.

The Public Works staff is recommending that the City retain the professional transportation planning and engineering services of SRF Consulting to prepare the environmental documentation and preliminary engineering design services necessary to obtain the final MnDOT and FHWA approvals for the proposed interchange at TH 52 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW. SRF had been retained by Olmsted County and MnDOT to prepare the Environmental Assessment, Layout Plan and Final Design for the TH 52 / 75<sup>th</sup> Street NW interchange and associated access roads and grade separations at 85<sup>th</sup> Street and 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW. Additionally, SRF assisted the City and ROCOG staff in preparing the 65<sup>th</sup> Street Interchange Justification report. The estimated cost of the work tasks shall not exceed \$92,525.

## COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a Professional Engineering Services Agreement with SRF Consulting to prepare the environmental documentation and preliminary engineering design services necessary to obtain the final MnDOT and FHWA approvals for the proposed interchange at TH 52 / 65<sup>th</sup> Street NW; City Project J7212.

**COUNCIL ACTION:** Motion by: \_\_\_\_\_ Second by: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

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